

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art made of record does not teach or fairly suggest the combination of elements as recited in the independent claims. Specifically, the prior art does not teach:

reducing the length of the retention period for the at least one unit of data in response to the request

receiving, at the at least one CAS system, a request from the at least one host to restore the retention period to the length of the previously-defined retention period for the at least one unit of data; and restoring the retention period to the length of the previously-defined retention period in response to the request.

The dependent claims being definite, further limiting and fully enabled by the specification are also allowed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Examiner's Amendment

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR

Art Unit: 2161

1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Examiner's amendment is per Supplemental Amendment received June 12, 2009.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Scott J. Gerwin on June 11, 2009.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Etienne P. LeRoux whose telephone number is (571) 272-4022. The examiner can normally be reached 8:00 am - 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Apu Mofiz can be reached on (571) 272-4080. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2161

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Etienne P LeRoux/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2161

6/12/2009